Chapter 23
VS Ms. Precocious

C'mon, it's hot! Don't get so close to me!
Hey!
Why won't she lay off me?
Why don't you learn from Ronin? He hasn't complained for a little bit
Hold on...
If it's already this hot,
what'll happen to me when summer reaches its peak?!
Onii-chan, are you hot?
You're all sweaty
I'm totally fine
Hear that?
I'm not like that idiot!
FOUNDATION

Sono-chan?
ぽん
ぽん
ペち
FOUNDATION
It must be hard for you, Summer-sensei...
しょ
Ow ow ow ow!
Let Aiko wipe your sweat too!
ごし ごし
It's hot!
You're welcome!
Thank you, Sono-chan
You're so thoughtful
!

Children, get ready to go home~
Geez!
Okay~!
Hey!
What irresponsible children they are
Even though they've already been told to clean up so many times,
they always leave everything a mess after they finish playing.
Well, she's being a good girl, let's leave her be
Good work, Sono-chan.
No, no, it's nothing!

Stop running, you!
Good afternoon.
Oh, Chitan-chan is the first to be picked up today
I still want to play!
Chitan-hey!
Excuse me?
Ronin, there's someone up front; go talk to her.
Hurry up!
FOUNDATION
Excuse me-
Yeah, I'm coming!
Okay, okay.
It's not polite to make someone wait
Yeah, yeah, yeah
It's not polite to make someone wait!

A middle schooler? Did she get a child from an early marriage? Then she must have married a man with a child?! And now she has to juggle being a middle school student and a mother!
A school uniform?!
……?
ちょん
?
Ohhhh
Good afternoon. I'm here to pick up my sister.
ペこり
HIMAWARI
Aahhhh!
ガニ
!
You must be Chitan-chans mother
Oh! You're picking up your sister?
I hope my sister isn't being a burden
Oh, I'm sorry Umm—
So, who's your sister?

This little brat again—
HOLD UP!
わはは…はは
FLIP!
ボス…
?
ふふ…
Geez, such a young age and you're already flipping girls' skirts! You'll grow up into a dirty old man, no one'll marry you, and you'll be single your whole life until you die alone!
What do you think you're doing to Sono-chan!?
くわっ

Hana-chan!
Why are you picking me up?
Mother said she's going to be home late
I see!
Oh yeah, she is Aiko-chan, and he is Suimei-sensei
so you are a teacher?
Yes, I am...
Now, go get ready
kay!

...huh?
Aren't you being a little too friendly?
Well, that's just the impression I got.
You're a teacher, but you only hang around one of the kids?
It seems a little WEIRD.
Sono-chan, let's get you changed!
Okay!

"Weird", is it?!
Onii-chan...
...I don't *think* it is, though...
Onii-chan—
...Someone I just met for the first time said so... maybe it really is.
W-What is it?
Onii-chan!

No... she didn't say that to you.
Is Aiko weird?
.....
I'm not weird! I'm not weird!
Wait, yeah— It's not weird, getting attached to a child.
Hey! Ronin! Would you get Aiko-chan to change her clothes?!

What a good older sister she is
Even though Sono-chan is always so independent, she still lets her sister spoil her
Sono-chan, say banzai!
Let's take this off!
Good, next is your coat
.....?
Sono-chan?

Okay, spread your arms.
くるっ
ぱた
ぱた
C'mon, Sono-chan— it's okay, I'll do that later
Hana-chan, could you leave me alone?
Huh?
I'll do it myself, so let me!

Aren't you being a little too friendly?
Onii-chan, take it off!
?
Oh... Then, I'll wait over here... Will you be all right?
Hurry up!
I'll be fine. I can finish it myself.

カチーン
Wow! Sono-chan is a big girl now— she can do everything by herself!
Okay, say banzai!
Isn't she great?
She can change her clothes alone
Can you?
Aiko can also change by herself!
Just leave me alone!
ぷい

Suimei-san, I see that you're very close to her.
!
.....
Is she angry?
Very close... well, how should I put it...
You're a ronin, right?
Ah-ha!
You're just being sulky since Sono-chan didn't let you help her.
ムカッ
You must have a lot of free time.
Ha ha ha
Now where did you hear that?
むす――っ
.....

What kind of big sister would get irritated because her younger sister is growing up?!
ムカ
ムカ
ムカ
I don't want to hear that from the ronin who ogles kindergarteners!
ムカ
ふ…
ずん
しくしくしくしく
I do not!
ふん

STOP PICKING ON ONII-CHAN!
It's hot.
むん
むん
Are you okay, onii-chan?
I feel so hot
ぶる
ぶるる
……

Onii-chan,
what's wrong?
Jeez-
Ah...
!
.....
Onii-chan?
...Aiko-chan.

Wow, you can change your clothes by yourself!
.....
That's great, Aiko-chan!
Eheheh!
So he's still got some fight left in him.
I wonder how Sensei is doing
Oh yeah
.....
Hmm? Aiko-chan, you forgot your tie.

Oh, you're all finished!
Yup!
Hana-chan, thank you for waiting.

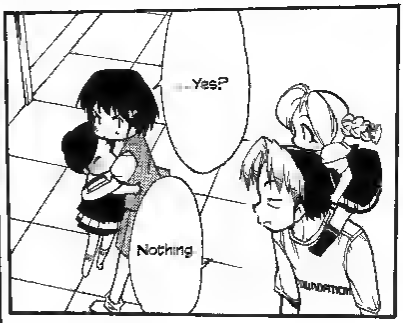
You're great!
You did it all by yourself!
YOU MEAN IT?
Sono-chan?
……!?

...Don't worry, I'm fine!
Yay!

I'm sorry about earlier, Hana-chan

!

Good, isn't it, Sorio-chan.


...Yes?
Nothing.

You just wanted to be praised by your sister all along, right?

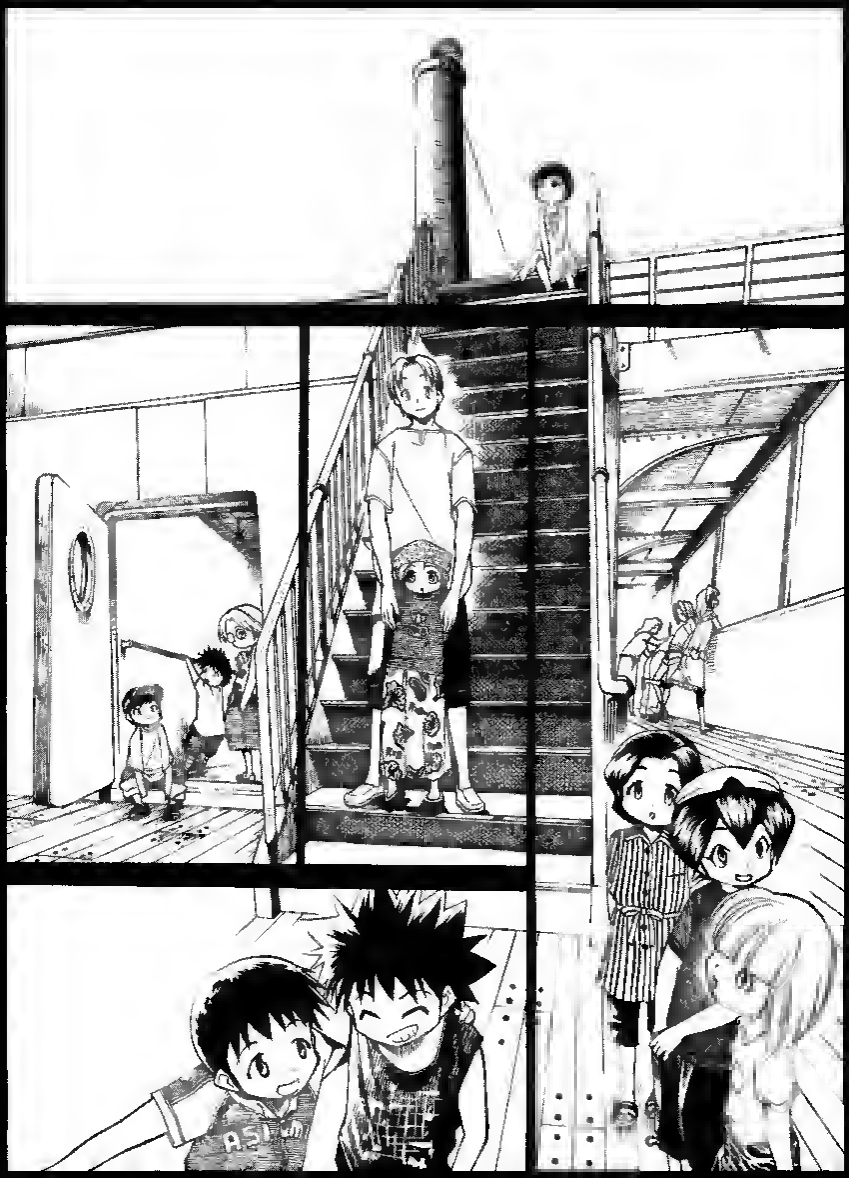
あ
あ
あ

Hey now, Ronin...!
Sono-chan...
!
……
きゃー!!

ニコ
きゅ…
Sono-chan is the best!
Ehehe!
You are so pretty, Sono-chan!
Aww~!
……

Isn't there something you're forgetting?
Oh!
You've got everything, right?
ガラッ
See you!
Hana-chan, where's your bookbag?
……!
Sorio will get it for you!
てて～っ
Hana-chan, here!
Thank you
……
I guess Sorio-chan's just more reliable than you are!

Story Continues in Volume 4!



AIKO DESHO
c.23

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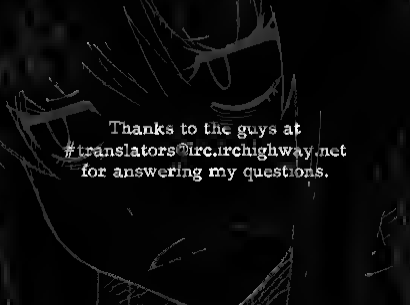

Thanks to the guys at
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